

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. patent application. Claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 1, 7, 13, 15 and 16 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. Therefore, claims 1-16 remain pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Rejections of Claims 1-16 based on *Tserng* in view of *Chau*

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,519,358 issued to Tserng (*Tserng*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,512,496 issued to Chau et al. (*Chau*). For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that claims 1-16 are not rendered obvious by *Tserng* in view of *Chau*.

Claim 1 recites the following:

a bipolar junction transistor in which a base contact region includes a spine with at least one base finger that extends from one side of the spine and at least one base finger that extends from a second side of the spine, wherein an inner periphery of an emitter region is adjacent to a periphery of said spine and base fingers, and an outer periphery of the emitter region occupies a perimeter of a base mesa region.

Tserng discloses a unit transistor having an emitter finger extending from an emitter pad, two base fingers extending from a central input transmission line, and collector bus that contacts a collector region adjacent to each base finger. See Figs. 11 and 14; and col. 6, lines 33-39. *Tserng* does not disclose a bipolar junction transistor in which a base contact region includes a spine with at least one base finger that extends from one side of the spine and at least one base finger that extends from a second side of the spine, wherein an inner periphery of an emitter region is adjacent to a periphery of

said spine and base fingers, and an outer periphery of the emitter region occupies a perimeter of a base mesa region.

Examiner does not contend that *Chau* cures the deficiencies of *Tserng* pointed out by Applicants, so Applicants will not address the Examiner's interpretations of *Chau*, though Applicants expressly reserve the right to refute such interpretations in future office actions, if necessary. However, Applicants will point out that like *Tserng*, *Chau* discloses base contact fingers that extend from an input transmission line. See col. 7, lines 62-63. Thus, like *Tserng*, *Chau* does not disclose a bipolar junction transistor in which a base contact region includes a spine with at least one base finger that extends from one side of the spine and at least one base finger that extends from a second side of the spine, wherein an inner periphery of an emitter region is adjacent to a periphery of said spine and base fingers, and an outer periphery of the emitter region occupies a perimeter of a base mesa region.

Therefore, *Tserng* in view of *Chau* fails to disclose at least one limitation of claim 1. Consequently, claim 1 is not rendered obvious by *Tserng* in view of *Chau* for at least the reasons set forth above. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 2-16 depend from claim 1. Because dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants submit that claims 2-16 are not rendered obvious by *Tserng* in view of *Chau* for at least the reasons set forth above. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 2-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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